

Appl. No. 10/708,541
Amdt. dated July 15, 2005
Reply to Office action of April 18, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant's Amendments to the Specification:

5 Please amend the specification as indicated in the "Amendments to the Specification" section of this response. The two indicated paragraphs are being slightly amended merely to correct minor grammatical errors and no new material has been introduced.

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Examiner's Comment:

15 Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant's Response:

20 Claim 3 has been amended to define the "ground layer" as being "a second ground layer" and is supported by Fig.8 and Paragraph [0023]. No new material has been introduced. Reconsideration of claim 3 under this rejection is respectfully requested.

Examiner's Comment:

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 Claims 1 and 9-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art in view of Phillips, Jr. (US '400) or Kaneko et al

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5 (US '517). Claims 2 and 4-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 3 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph set forth in this Office action.

Applicant's Response:

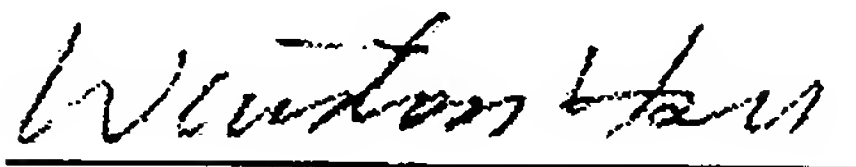
10 The Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the allowance of claims 2 and 4-8 if rewritten appropriately and has chosen to amend the claims accordingly without disclaimer of any kind regarding the respective merits of any and all claims as originally filed.

15 Independent claim 1 has been amended to include all limitations of allowed claim 2. Additionally, new independent claim 16 has been introduced, which includes all of the limitations of the original claim 1 plus the limitations of allowed claim 5. Claim 6 has been reintroduced as new claim 17 and depends upon claim 16. New independent claim 18 has been introduced and includes all of the limitations of the original claim 1 plus the limitations of allowed claim 7. Claim 8 has been
20 reintroduced as new claim 19 and depends upon claim 18. Claims 2, 5-6, and 7-8 have been cancelled. No new matter has been introduced.

25 As such, reconsideration of claims 1, 3-4, and 9-15 under this rejection and acceptance and consideration of new claims 16-19 is respectfully requested. The Applicant believes that the current application is now in condition for allowance and requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case, should the Examiner concur,

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Sincerely yours,



Date: July 15, 2005

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